

REMARKS

The Office Action of January 18, 2008 has been received and carefully noted. The following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

The Office Action dated January 18, 2008 was a restriction requirement, requiring the applicant to elect to prosecute one of the following three groups under 35 USC §121. The three groups are:

Group I, recited in claims 1-5 and 20- 21, drawn to a method of breeding an evergreen azalea;

Group II, recited in claims 6-9 and 20-21, drawn to a method of breeding a heat resistant azalea; and

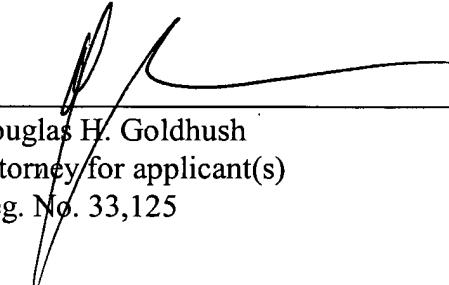
Group III, recited in claims 10-21, drawn to a method of breeding an ever flowing azalea.

Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the subject matter of Group III, recited in claims 10-21, drawn to a method of breeding an ever flowing azalea.

Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application(s) on the non-elected subject matter at any point prior to the termination of the proceedings in the subject application. Timely consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

In the event that there are any fees due with respect to the filing of this paper, please charge Counsel's Deposit Account No.50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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